

HISTORY OF CONFEDERATE UNIFORM AND FLAG

Designs From Which They Were Adopted Were Made by Nicola Marschall, a Prussian Artist, Who, For More Than Thirty Years, Has Lived in Louisville.

(Special Correspondence of The Times-Dispatch.)

LOUISVILLE, KY., March 11.—Located in the very heart of the busy city of Louisville, in a well-known business building, is the studio of Nicola Marschall, a Prussian artist, who, for more than thirty years, has lived in Louisville. It is a studio of the past, a studio of the future, a studio of the present. It is a studio of the past, a studio of the future, a studio of the present. It is a studio of the past, a studio of the future, a studio of the present.

Within the borders of that State he remained for a time, a young man, then to the European country of his native, there to perfect the study of his chosen calling. Again he journeyed to the Southland, this time to make it his home for good. It was at the little town of Marion, Ala., on the eve of the struggle between the North and South, that he first saw the Confederate uniform of gray, that stands for the grandest army that ever marched in the annals of time.

As He Appears To-day.

Vigorous, hearty and genial to-day, physically erect and mentally energetic, one is scarcely prepared to believe the record of life that holds seventy-four years registered in this man's cradle. A half-century has left its traces with wrinkles and gray hair, for more than thirty years Marschall has lived in Louisville, where he has won friends as enduring as his own good name, and to-day he occupies as a studio the room of which he took possession in 1872.

Mr. Marschall's studio is in the building on the southwest corner of Green and Fourth streets, a two-story building, and looks out upon the two busy thoroughfares below. Plain and ordinary as a mere room, yet as the studio of Nicola Marschall, it is a place of interest, a place of history, a place of art. It is a place of interest, a place of history, a place of art. It is a place of interest, a place of history, a place of art.

The Designer's Story.

The story of how Mr. Marschall came to design the uniform and flag of the Confederacy is best told in his own words. "I came to this country," he says, "when I was eighteen years of age. My

home was in St. Wendel, Prussia, and I left there that I might continue professionally with music and art. Instead of having to serve in the army, I left with the permission of my government, something more easily secured then than now, to land in New Orleans and from there made my way to Mobile, where I lived a relative of mine, who had preceded me.

"I landed in America, when the tide of humanity was flowing toward the gold fields of the Pacific coast. My kinsman tried to persuade me to join his mining party and go to California in search of wealth. But I was then as far away from home as I cared to be, and so declined to go. I became acquainted with one of the teachers in the female seminary at Marion, Ala., and learned that it was one of the garden spots of the South. Wealthy planters lived there; it was a seat of learning and cultured citizens many of the oldest and most aristocratic Southern families. I decided to leave my home and go to live with a teacher at the seminary there, where

I taught painting, violin, piano, guitar and the French and German languages. My studies in Europe of drawing and painting now served me well. I came over here on an old sailing vessel, and well do I remember to this day how I had to draw the pictures of every member of the crew from captain to humblest sailor. I had been in this country one year when my brother arrived here from Prussia.

"In 1857 I returned to Prussia and remained in Europe for two years continuing my studies of art. I studied both in Munich and Italy. It was while returning from Italy and passing through Verona, which then belonged to Austria, that I saw the uniform which some years later was to furnish the design for the Southern Confederate uniform.

"In Verona one day the notes of martial music came to me in searching out the source I found that a party of sharpshooters belonging to the Austrian army were passing. I was spellbound. What splendid soldiers, and what noble uniforms! I saw my involuntary comment as I saw them. 'Well might this

be said. They were all great, manly soldiers and were dressed in the striking uniform of gray with green trimmings. The green denoted their rank in the army—the sharpshooters—and their rank was indicated by marks on the collars of their coats—bars for Lieutenants and Captains, stars for the higher officers.

"I returned to America in 1859 and again located in Marion. There I painted many portraits of the wealthy planters and members of their family, as well as other prominent people of the South. Andrew Moore was then a Judge at Marion. He afterward became War Governor of Alabama, and was one of the most important men in those days in our part of the country.

"Napoleon Lockett, a beautiful Southern woman of an old Virginia family and the wife of a wealthy planter, lived at Marion. Her eldest son married the eldest daughter of Gov. Moore and one of her younger sons married one of the younger daughters of Gov. Moore.

"Soon came the first notes of war. Mrs. Lockett was as loyal a daughter as the South had, and was much interested in its affairs. She came to me one day and said: 'Mr. Marschall, we have seceded, and the Confederate Government wants a flag. Will you make us a design? It must not be too unlike the Union flag, but different enough to be distinguished at a distance.'

"At once I took pencil and paper, and made three different designs. The first was of two red stripes and one of white, with a blue field bearing seven white stars—indicating the number of States that had then seceded—in the upper left-hand corner. The second design was the same, except that the blue field with

stars was at the extreme left of the white stripe, instead of the top red stripe. The third design had the two full red stripes at top and bottom, the white stripe in the middle with the blue field and white stars in the center.

"It is a matter of historical fact that this first design, made by Mr. Marschall, was the flag adopted by the Confederate Government. It is a flag of Southern history, that flag—the Stars and Bars—was placed on the staff above the Capitol at Montgomery, Ala., on March 4, 1862, by Miss J. C. Tyler, of Virginia. She was a granddaughter of John Tyler, ex-President of the United States.

Continuing his interesting narrative, Mr. Marschall said: 'Mrs. Lockett thanked me for the flag designs, and started to go. Then she came back, adding: 'We also want a design for a uniform. Mr. Marschall, can't you suggest one?' The thought occurred to me of the gray uniforms I had seen worn by the Austrian sharpshooters. I took a piece of paper and made several rough sketches, indicating the gray color, and also the colors on the collar to denote the branch of the service—buff for officers, yellow for cavalry, blue for infantry, red for artillery, etc.

"It did not occur to me then that I had done anything worthy of note. I simply made the sketches at the request of Mrs. Lockett. I know no more about them from then until I found that the uniform and one of the flags had been adopted by the Confederate Government. This is the story of how the gray of the Confederate army and the banner under which that army fought, were made—a story told by the one who conceived the plans. Not boastfully, but with a measure of pride does Mr. Marschall, when sought out, tell the story. He considers that he had done little in making the designs, but he is to this day proud that his were the ideas adopted for both the uniform and flag of the South.

Served in the War.

When war was declared Mr. Marschall enlisted as a private of volunteers, going with his command from Marion to Garrison, Forts Morgan and Gaines, and at the mouth of Mobile Bay. There he served for a time, then returned to Marion on a furlough. While at home, on the furlough, a friend, an officer, he employed a substitute for a year and three months. Then came the call for more volunteers. Then came the call for more volunteers. Then came the call for more volunteers.

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